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30. (New) The process of claim 23, wherein the fluid has a viscosity less than approximately five centipoise.

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the time taken by the Examiner to review Applicants' present Application. This present Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Official Action mailed February 27, 2001. Applicants are amending the attorney docket number, last name of the first named inventor, canceling claims 1-9 and 13 without prejudice and disclaimer, amending claims 10 and 12, and adding claims 14-30. Applicants submit that the amendments do not add new matter to the present Application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action for the present Application.

The change to the attorney docket number is to allow for better tracking of the present Application. The change in the first named inventor's last name is to correct the records at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The executed declaration mailed on February 17, 2000, has the correct spelling of Mr. Zagars (versus Zagers) last name. A request for a corrected filing receipt was submitted on the same date. Applicants have still not received an accurate corrected filing receipt since the request was submitted.

Applicants respectfully request a filing receipt to reflect the corrections originally requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,516,429 ("Snodgrass"). Claim 10 comprises an outlet valve of the multistage pump coupled to the dispensation chamber. Referring to FIG. 2 and related text of Snodgrass, outlet tubing 16 is connected to slave diaphragm pump 124; however, no outlet valve is taught. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submits that Snodgrass cannot anticipate claims 10-12 because Snodgrass does not teach an outlet valve as recited in claim 10.

Claims 11 and 12 depend from claim 10. Applicants respectfully submit that Snodgrass cannot anticipate claims 11 and 12 at least for the reasons given with respect to the claim 10.

The changes to claim 10 remove many limitations and significantly broaden its scope. References below are to the underlined language of claim 10 within Appendix 1. The names of the stages have been change to "first" and "second" to make them more generic. The outlet valve appeared originally in claim 10 but was moved to an earlier portion of the claim. A first valve between the feed chamber and the dispensation chamber is more generic than an isolation valve disposed in the feed chamber because, as amended claim 10 is written, the first valve reads on the isolation valve or the barrier valve as referred to within the detailed description. The location of the wording regarding the activation of the dispensing pump has been moved. Therefore, Applicants submit that the scope of amended claim 10 is significantly broader than original claim 10.

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending claims.

Applicants are concurrently submitting a petition to revive the present Application and a change of correspondence address.

Although Applicants believe no fees are due with this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0456 of Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich, LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.121

APPENDIX 1

IN THE CLAIMS

10. (Amended) A process for controlling a multistage pump to dispense a fluid, the multistage pump having a feed chamber, a dispensation chamber, and an outlet valve of the multistage pump coupled to the dispensation chamber filter disposed therebetween, the process comprising:

~~a ready first stage for bringing the feed chamber to an equilibrium pressure state, wherein upon opening an isolation valve disposed in the feed chamber, closing an outlet valve disposed in the dispensation chamber and opening a barrier valve disposed in the feed chamber while a first valve between the feed chamber and the dispensation chamber is closed and the outlet valve is closed, the feed dispensation chamber is brought to an equilibrium pressure state; and~~

~~a dispense second stage for dispensing the fluid onto an object, wherein a dispensation pump disposed in the dispensation chamber is activated to dispense the fluid onto an object upon closing the isolation valve and opening the outlet valve and activating the dispensation pump, such that the dispensation pump is activated subsequent to the outlet valve being opened so as to eliminate stuttered dispensing of the fluid; and~~

~~— a suckback stage for eliminating excess fluid that flows out of the dispensation chamber, wherein operation of the dispensation pump is reversed to suck excess fluid back into the dispensation chamber and wherein the outlet valve is closed after the excess fluid is sucked back into the dispensation chamber.~~

12. (Amended) The process of Claim 180, wherein excess fluid spitting is substantially eliminated from the dispensation chamber.